

Lewis Tappan Nov. 7. 1844

New York, Nov. 7/44.

Dear Brother Phelps;

Yours of the 4th is just received.

88

I enclose ^{one hundred} fifty dollars on account. It will be perfectly convenient to pay you as you want money. When you want more just write me for the amount due & I will send it to you. Please send me two receipts of equal sums, one for the Amer. & For. Anti S. Soc. and one for the Union Min. Soc.

I will send the papers you mention.

A gentleman called on me lately - whose name I forget - who said he lives in Washington City - has lived in Indiana - &c. He intends, he said, to get up a subscription petition to Congress, this winter for the abolition of slavery in D. & C. I think he may be the Mr. Bigelow you mention. What reliance is to be placed in him I do not know. He talked well.

I am not acquainted with Mr. Dickerson, with his physical or moral courage. I think you ^{are} would be well qualified for pastor of an anti s. ch. in Washington, but I am not persuaded that funds & talents can be employed in that way, to advance the anti s. cause, better than in other ways. How can we expect to do much in slave tendencies while the chs are so detached in the free States? A professedly anti-slavery ch. is not perhaps advisable anywhere. Such churches can not be built & sustained even here, except on a small scale. What hope then, that, at present, one could be sustained at Washington.

I have thought more of the newspaper project, & believe it would be very desirable to have a handsome weekly sheet to advocate all the great branches of xian benevolence. Such a paper must needs be forced upon the community. When the man or men are found to be willing to expend 10 to 15000 dollars its ^{by subscription} can be done. But no existing paper, religious or secular, can be sustained in this city which ^{is} independent of popular sentiment. See how cautious the Boston Recorder is - how tame the N.Y. Evangelist - show for slavery the N.Y. Observer!

[Sometimes I feel almost discouraged about my health, and continuance in business here. Were I ten years younger & in any present business I would pursue it vigorously & appropriate 5 or 6000 dollars a year to the advancement of the anti s. cause. It would delight me much to establish an office here - have the Reporter & U. Min. each issued once a fortnight - and have your brother Wright here devoting all your energies to the anti s. cause, including the various enterprises. But every now & then a little overwork prostrates me for a time & makes me think of quitting business & the city & crawling into some snug retreat.]

Write your letter to Sister Caroline & your letter to the Anti-Slavery Bazaar. I will give you the letter to the Bazaar. I will give you the letter to the Bazaar. I will give you the letter to the Bazaar.

There never was a better opportunity than the present to work in the anti S. cause. The attention of the nation is around to the subject. We ought, at head quarters here (for N. Y. is sure to be the headquarters of all philanthropic efforts) have machinery in motion that will keep the subject alive before the country.

Is it not best to have a convention called to meet in this city to consider what steps should be taken in the present exigency, or as soon as the result of the Presidential election is known? Not a large Convention, but 50 men say, selected from different States. There are funds enough & talents enough, among anti S. men, if properly directed, to agitate the nation more advantageously than ever.

I send you all the material I have for the Union and remain very truly yours
Lewis Tappan.

P. S.

E. Wright Jr has accepted my proposition to come on here & labor for me one year for \$600. My intention has been to employ him in my office &c. Last evening the Ex. Com. of the Amer. & For. Anti S. Soc. talked the matter over & seemed to think - as they naturally might - that it would be a shame to employ such a man in an office, or as a clerk; and they expressed a wish that E. Wright should be in the service of the Society. Jackson of Albany thinks E. W. would not be the best man to edit the Reporter, that he would side the Liberty party, hobby too hard &c. What think you? The Com. think what he might devote much of his time to feeding the city papers with anti S. intelligence &c.

Mr Perkins of Meriden thinks that the Union Anti S. Soc. had best be re-organized. Mr Scudeler wrote me to the same effect. My own opinion is decidedly that this is the work you are best fitted for - Secy of a Missionary Society, embracing all the anti S. missions. If our efforts were concentrated we might do much good. Of what use is it to have a paper here & a paper at Boston? Perhaps it may be well to have a convention called on the subject. I can not where the Society is located, but we ought to have a good paper & a good Secy, & a good Treasurer. Will you talk the matter over with the friends of the cause. The Com. here

with respect to education may be somewhat lost.

Rev H. Bingham has written to me, enclosing a Communication
in answer to Mr Andrews' letter of last A.M. It is filled with
queries. I wrote to him that I thought Mr Andrews could answer
his queries better than myself - that the next tw. was preoccupied -
that I would lay his communication before the Com. G. H. B. does
not agree with Mr A. in what he states.

Please call at Mr Dunbar's, 48 Kilby
st. for a parcel.

Scudder
Mrs. Studeny



draft.
T. School

Rev. Amos A. Phelps

Boston

Mr Dunbar

He will have the money
with you after my letter is sent.